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Michigan To Recognize Heroes Next Week

Patterson Bill Designates Next Week As American Heroes Week

(Lansing) – Recent legislation signed into law declares that each week in which September 11 falls is to be known as "American Heroes Week" in Michigan. The first observance of this week will be next week, September 7 through September 13.

The legislation, Senate Bill 578, was sponsored by Senator Bruce Patterson (R-Canton). The bill was passed unanimously by the Senate and House and signed into law by the Governor on August 13.

The new law recognizes the many Americans who demonstrated extraordinary heroism on September 11, 2001. The bill also encourages schools to educate children about local, hometown heroes and role models.

"American Heroes Week is a fitting tribute to the many Americans who display extraordinary acts of selflessness and courage, "Patterson stated. "It is especially important, too, to remind children that even ordinary acts can be heroic. They don't need to be a rock, movie, or sports star in order to be respected, admired and successful. They, too, can be a hero in their hometown."

Patterson worked with the Troy-based RARE Foundation (Recognizing Achievement and Rewarding Excellence Foundation) on the legislation. The RARE Foundation works to educated young people about heroes that are around them everyday. To learn more about the RARE Foundation, visit www.rarefoundation.com.

Michigan is the first state in the country to declare a week-long remembrance of American Heroes.